

**FISCAL NOTE**  
**SB 2460 - HB 3196**

March 1, 2004

**SUMMARY OF BILL:**

- Eliminates the current case management system under the workers' compensation law, TCA 50-6-123, to coordinate medical services.
- Amends TCA 50-6-207, related to permanent hearing loss in both ears, by removing hearing loss from the current schedule of 150 weeks and making it a body as a whole injury, thus entitling the employee to receive the maximum payment time of 400 weeks.

**ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Decrease State Expenditures - \$50,000**

**Increase State Expenditures - \$68,250/Claims Award Fund**

**Increase Local Govt. Expenditures - Exceeds \$100,000**

Estimate assumes:

- if the workers' compensation case management system in the Department of Labor and Workforce Development were deleted, there would be a decrease in state expenditures of \$50,000 resulting in a reduction in workforce of two positions and related expenses.
- if the Division of Claims Award paid a claim for 100% hearing loss under the current law, the pay-out for that claim would be 150 weeks x \$273 = \$40,950. If enacted, this bill would increase state expenditures to the Claims Award Fund \$68,250 for each claim. (400 weeks x \$273 = \$109,200. \$109,200 minus \$40,950 = \$68,250).
- a potential increase in local government expenditures to the extent claims filed by employees of local governments come under the provisions of this bill.

**CERTIFICATION:**

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James W. White, Executive Director

